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NOTES FROM MEADOWBROOK FARM

By William Pitt



Don't make a practice of doping your fowls.

If the wind blows the mulch off the strawberry beds put it on again.

Give the sheep only as much clover or mixed hay as they will eat up clean.

The successful stock-raiser must know how to feed, what to feed and how much.

Now is the time to overhaul all the farm machinery and put it in shape for next season's work.

Stop guessing and use the scales and the Babcock tester to find out what your cows are doing.

The profit on a small flock well-kept is certain, while that on a large flock poorly-kept is hard to find at all.

It takes judgment to buy feeding stock, as many a man has discovered after he has gotten a lot of feeders that won't fatten.

Sprinkle the dusty hay with water before feeding to the horse. The dust is very bad for his lungs and the lungs are a vital part of the horse.

You can't make a good furrow in life while the temper is ruffled. Smooth out the kinks, get good-natured and then at the work like a man.

The barn ought to be handy to the house. Think of the amount of walking you do in the course of a year when the barn lies a quarter to half a mile from the house.

Extra good butter always commands a few cents more a pound than the regular market price, but poor butter is always at the bottom. Which grade are you marketing?

Many a man who uses a whip in breaking the colt needs to apply the whip to himself rather than to the colt. He who cannot control his own temper cannot hope to gain control over the unbroken colt.

When a horse is working he needs enough feed to supply the energy demanded of him plus the necessary amount to keep him in good condition. When he is idle he only needs sufficient feed to keep him in fair condition.

Next to a good laying strain, the best to start with is a healthy flock of birds. Good healthy breeding stock will produce with good, strong constitutions, birds that will not be liable to disease, and these are the fowls we want to put into our pens both for eggs and breeding.

Share your good thoughts with others. When you discover a good point in reference to farming methods let your neighbor in on the good thing. You will find if you do that he will in turn be letting go some good pointer that will help you. Too bad there is not more interchange of thoughts among our farmers.

One full feed of hay a day is enough for the horse, thinks a Canadian veterinarian, who reasons that because a horse in the work season only gets one full feed of hay per day it should be so in winter, when the practice too often is to allow the horse to stand and munch hay all day. The horse to be healthy should have its stomach empty two or three hours before the next meal is given him.

Oats make a good feed for any of the farm animals, especially, of course, the driving and work horses. Don't be stingy when feeding oats to calves or colts. Some claim that crushed oats

are better to feed than the whole. They may be for hogs or dairy cows when oats are made only a part of the ration, but for horses, colts and calves feed them without crushing, and feed good oats. In the absence of oats, barley makes fine feed for colts or pigs.

He that putteth farm before wife is small souled and short-sighted. Let not the burdens of the farm press too heavily upon her shoulders. It is needless drudgery which takes the joy out of life and makes the farm the prison from which the soul longs to be set free.

The handy barn is the barn where the arrangements are such as to make work therein easy. Have you such a barn? Have you put in that stairway to the loft, or are you still content to expend time and effort in swinging from rafter to rafter in gaining access to the upper story?

The reason why poultry on the farm pay is because all grain food can be grown on the farm, as well as potatoes, turnips, beets, mangels, cabbages, clover, etc., for which the city breeders, or those less fortunately situated, have to pay a big price, and which represents a big item on the expense side of the annual account.

A cow standing in a barn or in a fence corner shivering with the cold, with great balls of manure hanging to her thighs, with her tail loaded down with the same, is not comfortable, and will take nearly all the food she will eat, under the above conditions, to sustain life; and the owner will have to think pretty hard, if he thinks at all—which is doubtful—if he is able to figure out where the profit comes in.

You will reap from your ewes just such a crop of lambs as you have worked for. If the care of the ewes has been a matter of small thought and convenience, and the feeding has been with little consideration of the demands on the mother and her prospective offspring, then you may well expect a poor showing. Many a farmer blames to what he calls his luck what is directly chargeable to his shiftlessness.

Silage wins over corn stover according to tests of the Pennsylvania experiment station, which showed that steers fed corn silage as a part of their ration made better gains than those fed corn stover. The steers fed corn stover ate more grain than those fed corn silage. The cost of the feed was more where corn silage was used as a part of the ration than where corn stover was used. The steers fed corn silage made more economical gains than those fed corn stover. The steers fed corn silage showed a better coat and a more thrifty appearance than those fed corn stover.

Here is the way one of our successful dairymen figures out the advantage of rearing his own cows. He says a really good cow is worth from \$50 to \$60 in almost any dairying section and at almost any time of the year. In his opinion we can grow a heifer up to the time she is two years old for \$40 and then she will pay her way until she is worth \$50 or more, providing, of course, nothing befalls her. We have the thing we want reared under our own eyes, and better for all practical purposes than anything that we could buy for more money. The convenience of having the cow we want at hand without having to look for her is important.

Snakes Reared for Their Skins.
The idea that snakes are useless creatures and should be exterminated wherever found, will have to pass away, says the Shoe Trade Journal, as in Australia they are now being systematically reared for the sake of their skins, which have a considerable commercial value in London, Paris and New York. Snakeskin is the fashionable material for slippers, belts, bags, purses, jewel boxes, card cases, dressing-table accessories, etc. Rabbit trappers supplement their means considerably by catching young snakes and extracting their poisonous fangs. The blacks are also expert snake catchers. To them the snake is an agreeable article of diet.

Minister Discovers Comet.
Ministerial duties do not prevent the Rev. Joel H. Metcalf, of Taunton, Mass., from pursuing astronomical investigations. His study of the stars has resulted in the discovery of a new comet, which is now being closely observed by astronomers throughout the world. It has been named Metcalf's comet.



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Bumblebees.

Yesterday Stubble and ME, gist for Fun, we wuz a fooling around in the "Run." It is Vakashun time now, but the school soon will begin with its rod and rule—so we wuz playing around at our Best, when we bumped in2 a Bumblebees nest!

Ge! did yew ever git stung by a Bumblebees? them big Bumble fellers, by gee! Stubb sez: "Let's play we are Pirates on Land; then we will Tackel this Bumblebees band!"

When we have laid awl thee Enemy low, we will Divide up the HONEY, you know!"

So we filled up with thee sand from thee Creek.

Stubble said: "Now we will make them feel sick!" throwing our bloodcurdling yell 2 thee breeze, we charged thee fort of thee wild Bumblebees!

onward we rushed with thee sand flying fast—only thee Noise and thee Sand didn't last!

"Buzzz!" sez a Bumblebees close 2 my cheek;

"Ow!" I heard Stubble bawl out with a shriek!

Then about SEVENTY MILLION big bees

seamed 2 cum after us out of thee Trees! straight down thee path I could hear

Stubble yell—

I wuz a follering him purty well!

sn! but thee feet of a Bee is red Hot—every Blamed place that they touched

left a Spot!

Stubble wuz bawling like time in thee Brush

when I bumped in2 him there with a rush.

over us still wuz thee bees sifting Mad—Gracious, thee site of that Creek made me Glad!

Intew thee water we dove from thee Shore, holding our breath till we can't any more!

Then while our clothes wuz a drying a lot,

we put sum Mud on thee Stings that we got.

when we reached home we wuz swelled oful Bad—

Cracky! them Bumblebees must a bin MAD!

Chords and Dischords.

"A weathercock which is to be seen in the vicinity of Westerham, England, depicts a motor car in the act of running over a pedestrian. At the arrow end stands the avenger—a policeman with upraised hand," says an exchange. Where is his other hand? Behind him?

I suppose the reason Little Jack Horner sat in a corner was because there was company to dinner and no room for Jack at the table.

If some of us had our just dues, the rest of you would be lonesome.

A Coney Island girl has just refused a Brooklyn lover. He met her on Monday, proposed on Tuesday and was refused on Wednesday. The refusal was based on the belief that he didn't really love her or he wouldn't have waited so long in proposing.

A boy in my neighborhood understands the science of domestic discord. If he wants to go anywhere, he asks his father first. If father says no, he triumphantly advises his mother to that effect. Inasmuch as husband and wife never agree and the wife bosses the field, she immediately tells the boy to get ready and go. Watch that boy; he is a born politician!

Men who never have had their names in the papers, should cheer up. Their names were not mis-spelled!

About this time of year a suburbanite begins to wonder why he was so enthusiastic about that garden last spring.

Side Remarks.

Years ago it was the fashion for the home to have a grand baby in it, but now only a baby grand is wanted.

Hard work is the only latchkey to success, and success never chides if you are weak enough to stay out all night.

No man knows how sweet sugar is until he has tasted aloe. True happiness comes not without its attendant sorrow.

In Demand.

Here's a toast to the girl That can make homemade bread; That gets her pa's breakfast While ma lies in bed.

The girl that can cook And the girl that can sew, And yet, at a function, Can dazzle the beau!

Yes, here's to the lassie; The one I adore— There's a job up at our house; Call Monday—side door!

Be sure you "read your title clear" when you buy a piece of land.

WALL PAPER

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